production of 384 MT has been shown. For the period from June 1999 till February 2000 the company has submitted 'nil' production reports. However, in December 1999 it has indicated that the plant is closed due to pollution problem. The Government of Kerala is aware of the closure of the unit and has convened several meetings to settle the problem.

The Government of India has enacted the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 and established the Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) to ensure timely detection of sick and potentially sick companies and for the speedy determination of preventive, ameliorative and remedial measures which need to be taken in respect of such companies. The rehabilitation schemes sanctioned by BIFR include various measures like restructuring the capital, induction of fresh funds by the promotors, merger with the other companies, change of management, provision of working capital and term loans by banks and financial institutions.

Decline in Export of Agricultural Products

†2467. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA :
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the share of export of agricultural products, out of the total exports, has been continuously decreasing since 1996-97 and until now;

(b) if so, the quantum of the said exports during 1996-97;

(c) the estimated quantum of exports to the made during the first nine months of the current year 1999-2000; and

(d) the main reasons for the constant decline in the quantum of exports ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (c) The country's total exports and total agricultural exports (in terms of value in Rs. crores) including Marine Products, Tea, Coffee, Castor Oil, Cotton including waste and the percentage share of export of total agricultural products to total exports during the last four years is as under :—

Export of Agricultural Products

Year	Country's total Exports (Rs. in Crores)	Agricultural Exports (Rs. in Crores)	% share of Agricultural Exports against Country's total exports
1996-97	118817.31	24362.57	20.50
1997-98	126285.76	23798.37	18.80
1998-99	141603.53	25224.63	17.81
1999-2000 (Apr.-Dec.)	118638.40	18207.80	15.35

(Source : DGCI & S, Calcutta)

(d) International trade in agricultural products is dependent on prevailing international demand coinciding with domestic ability to supply, prevailing world prices of commodities, the varieties being traded and consumer preferences.

Export by Export Processing Zones

†2468. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the export to be made by the units set up under the Export Processing Zones and Free Trade Zones is much less out of the total export made from the country;

(b) if not, the percentage of the average annual export made during the last three years; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government have extended maximum facilities for export to these units?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) The percentage from Export Processing Zones (EPZs), against the total exports of the country, during the last three years are given below :—

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.